

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 1124

March 8, 2017

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires local education agencies (LEAs) to establish at least one alternative school for students in grades one through six that have been suspended or expelled from regular school programs. Requires local boards of education to adopt a policy, in consultation with the State Board of Education (SBE), mandating student attendance at an alternative school or program upon suspension or expulsion from school.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Other Fiscal Impact – Passage of this bill may result in a significant mandatory increase to local government expenditures if passage results in an increase in students sent to alternative schools beyond current available capacity. The extent and timing of such local impacts are unknown and dependent upon several unknown factors. Any impact to state government is considered not significant.

Assumptions:

- Under current law, Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-3402, LEAs are required to administer alternative schools for students in grades 7-12; however, under the provisions of this bill, LEAs would be required to provide this option for all students across all grade levels
- The majority of school districts have alternative school programs in place. The districts which do not may be able to partner with nearby districts which have alternative school programs pursuant to Tenn. Code Annotated § 49-6-3402(a).
- To the extent the requirements of the bill cause an increase in students sent to alternative schools beyond the current available capacity, there will be a mandatory increase in local government expenditures for establishing additional capacity. The extent and timing of any such mandatory impact to local governments is unknown and cannot be reasonably determined because such impacts are dependent upon several unknown factors.
- Any increase in state expenditures for the SBE to consult with local boards of education is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Krista M. Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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